Happy Easter from KYEEMA

We hope this March news finds you well leading into the Easter weekend. It will be great to take some time with loved ones, relax, reflect on the first part of the year and refocus on the plans for the remaining year ahead. Perhaps consider donating to KYEEMA this Easter? Why? Simply put, improving village chicken health and productivity (including household egg production) is the easiest and most effective solution to alleviating poverty and improving the food and nutrition security of the most resource-poor households globally.

A big thank you must go out to all our supporters who already donated to support our CEO Celia and the “Time to Fly for Families in Mozambique” campaign. With the funds raised (A$3,048), we will be able to help around 100 families to have village chickens, to improve their household income and food and nutrition security. Watch our blog and social media platforms for updates on the impact of this money raised in the coming months.

Thank you from the whole team at KYEEMA.
“Time to Fly” for Families in Mozambique.
#RunCeliaRun!

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the “Time to Fly for Families in Mozambique” campaign. You helped us raise $3,048, which will go a long way to improve their household income and food and nutrition security for households in Mozambique. We will post project updates on our social media platforms in the coming months.

I can honestly say that was probably one of the hardest things I have ever done, and I have undertaken a few crazy adventures in my day! The countryside was spectacular and the organisers superb, so all in all it was a great experience! I have learnt just how much pain you can put your body through and still keep going. A great life lesson, especially when you finally get to relax after the finish!

We started at the base at Mt Cook on the west coast and finished in the town of Oamaru on the east coast of the New Zealand South Island. Over 7 days we build a camaraderie with fellow runners that was born of the need to look after each other, as we all went through highs and lows at different times. There were plenty of blisters and strained muscles and the medical tent (yes they had a doctor, nurse and two physios on call!) handled it all amazingly well to keep us going. The volunteers who set up the campsite each day and helped us at checkpoints along the way were also amazing. I don’t think they slept much in the seven days either! 135 people registered, 118 started and 100 finished. I feel very grateful to be among the finishers!

How exactly will the money be spent?

We will help around 100 poorer families to become more food secure and improve their livelihoods by increasing the availability of 1) vital protein from chicken meat and eggs and 2) extra household income from chicken and egg sales, which can be spent on more diverse food and other immediate needs like medicines and school fees.

Specifically we will:

Purchase local breed chickens to supply households without chickens.
Target households comprising of women, orphans and vulnerable children, and HIV and AIDS affected people.
Train beneficiaries on how to build chicken houses, use local feed, and basic disease control.
Train community vaccinators to operate their own small business vaccinating household birds against Newcastle disease – the disease that wipes out flocks every year.
Implement vaccination campaigns 3 times a year in consultation with vaccinators, district services and community leaders.

About the project

The funds raised will go towards supplying and promoting healthy and happy village chickens in resource poor households in Marracuene district, Mozambique. Chickens are generally owned and managed by women and children and can play an important role as they provide the women with additional resources to carry out their important task of supporting sick family members.

Our current Newcastle disease vaccination program in the district involves around 2,000 households, but there are many more families who have no livestock at all. They would also benefit if we were able to provide them with a “starter kit” of three chickens and a rooster, and teach them basic chicken husbandry skills.
Chicken flocks growing in Marracuene district, Mozambique

The delivery of chicken starter packs (3 hens and a rooster + a year’s vaccination for Newcastle disease) towards the end of 2017 to families in Marracuene district is starting to grow even bigger smiles on faces as new chicks are being born and flocks are growing.

Our dedicated team in Mozambique have been working hard to expand the reach of the Newcastle disease vaccination program for village chickens over the last 12 years. To date it is estimated they have directly reached over 162,650 families in 8 of the 11 provinces. The latest #runCeliacrun fundraising campaign will help our reach to even more families in the communities we work with.

“I am Berta Chilaule living in Mali village, Marracuene district. I am widow and unemployed and I am living with my four children of 25, 20, 18 and 15 years old respectively who are students and grandson of 5 years old.

The District Services of Women and Social Welfare usually helps us whenever they can. When this project came in, in 2017 I was selected as one of the beneficiaries to receive 3 hens and 1 rooster for reproduction and improve our nutrition and health.

This village was lucky to benefit from this project because apart from receiving village chickens to be raised in order to improve our nutrition and also get some cash when the hatched chicks grow up the project trained some community vaccinators that go round every four months to vaccinate our chickens against Newcastle disease. In November 2017, I received three hens and one rooster. In January, two of the hens hatched fifteen chicks (one hatched five chicks and the other ten chicks) and other hen started laying eggs in January, so far has six eggs. The chicks have not yet been vaccinated because the vaccinator do not have the vaccine yet. We are planning to vaccinate them in March. When the chickens grow up, I am planning to sell some of them to pay school fees. I am happy and I would like to thank for this opportunity.”

Mrs. Chilaule on the left is accompanied by Mrs. Ivone Chemane, the technician from the district Health, Women and Social Welfare Services.

This activity is part of a wider project funded directly by our loyal KYEEMA supporters in 2017. Its end goal is to improve food and nutrition security for families by: 1) decreasing household chicken mortalities; 2) increasing consumption of chicken meat and eggs; and 3) increasing income from the sale of chickens and eggs. More often than not, this extra income is spent by households on diversified foods and other immediate needs like medicines and school fees.

With help from the district Health, Women and Social Welfare Services, we have specifically targeted vulnerable women, children and people with HIV/AIDS to distribute the starter packs to – some 800 village chickens to 200 households without any chickens. These households receive training on how to build chicken houses, use local feed, and most importantly, control Newcastle disease (ND) and other chicken diseases. This includes monitoring the impact of vaccination against ND. The other activity funded in this project includes training community vaccinators to have their own business implementing ND vaccinations to households.

Mrs Berta’s hen with some of her 10 chicks.

Local solutions for vulnerable communities
Australian Festival of African Film Brisbane launch on 12th May 2018

Kyeema Foundation has teamed up with the Australian Festival of African Film (AFAF) to celebrate the diverse stories and communities on the continent. The motivation for AFAF is to inspire an Australian community to understand the real Africa through quality film. This launch event for the Brisbane community will be a not to miss celebration at the iconic Princess Theatre in Woolloongabba.

“The event will tell stories of the challenges and opportunities facing different African communities and of the Australian-African diaspora experience. The continent has diverse stories to tell and they may not be the stories you might expect.”
Janelle Meager AFAF festival director.

Featuring:

+ Documentaries and short films directed by emerging African and African-Australian filmmakers.

+ Australian premiere of ‘Kateke’ by Ghanaian director Peter Sedufia.

+ Discussion panel on the ‘Challenges and opportunities and opportunities facing marginalized communities’—with filmmakers, community advocates, academics and journalists including special guest Professor Peter Greste (UNESCO Chair of Journalism and Communication, UQ School of Communication and Arts).

+ Spoken word poetry by Anisa Nandaula www.anisanandaula.com and Patrick Oryem www.orama.me

+ Music and fashion celebrations from local African communities

+ In-language audience interviews

+ African food buffet by Mu’ooz

“This is our chance to tell the stories of communities in Africa we work with. Local solutions are the key to addressing the challenges of food and livelihoods insecurity. We hope the event inspires meaningful cross-cultural exchange and serves as a celebration of all that Africa has to offer.”
Celia Grenning, CEO Kyeema Foundation.

The event is proudly supported by Jonathan Sri, Councillor for the Gabba Ward. It will be a fundraiser for the work of Kyeema Foundation in Africa and the future of the festival in cities and regional towns around Australia. If you are a lover of film and the African continent, we invite you to join us.

Tickets available @ https://www.humanitix.com/event/afaffilmfest/

For more information please visit @AFAFfilmfest on facebook, twitter and Instagram

Join us at the Princess Theatre on Saturday 12 May 2018.

Local solutions for vulnerable communities